Horticulture. They have further informed that under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme ***"Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension"***, introduced by Ministry of Agriculture in 2004, agriculture related programmes are being produced and telecast six days a week on the National Channel. State-specific requirement of farmers are being catered through 18 Regional Channels five days a week and area-specific requirement of farmers of more than 140 districts across the country are being catered through 180 transmitters in 'Narrowcast' mode.

The same scheme is used for programmes broadcast on AIR. All programmes are being closely monitored by the respective State Level Committees (SLC) and District Level Committees (DLC) and also by the Apex Committee of Government of India and the response on the programmes has been encouraging in all the States.

(c) and (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that the programmes being telecast on the National channel have a reach of all TV homes and in the respective 18 States in all the TV homes.

The evaluation report on the impact of agricultural programmes introduced over 12 transmitters in 2004 revealed that most of the farmers watch the programmes and the programmes are by and large useful, informative and educative.

The weekly Feedback Reports being received from all the States also reveal that programmes are being watched by the farmers and are useful, informative, and have enhanced knowledge of the farmers.

IHSDP in Orissa

*409. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) to ameliorate the conditions of urban slum dwellers;

(b) the details of the projects that have since been approved indicating those falling in the State of Orissa; and

(c) the details of funds that have since been released for the projects in Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) For integrated development of slums through projects for providing shelter, basic services and other related civic amenities to the urban poor in select 63 cities, a Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor has been launched as part of the 'Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission on 3.12.2005. In the remaining cities/towns, an Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme has also been launched. Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme is a demand driven scheme for which State Governments, Urban Local Bodies and Parastatal agencies are

required to submit detailed project reports and sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Central Government committing to implement specified urban reforms. Under Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme, three projects amounting to Rs. 9.47 crore were sanctioned while no funds have been released as Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on Urban Reforms is yet to be signed by the State Government/Urban Local Body. No project proposals under Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme have so far been submitted by the State Government of Orissa.

Small towns under AUWSP in Assam

*410. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the actual number of small towns having safe drinking water supply under Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) so far;

(b) the number of such cities in Assam that have already been covered and the ones that are yet to be covered under the same programme;

(c) whether all the district headquarter towns would be provided with safe drinking water supply facility in the country; and

(d) if so, by when is it likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) As on 18.8.2006, water supply schemes for 1244 towns have been sanctioned under Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) since inception from 1993-94 and 639 schemes have been completed/commissioned. State-wise details of schemes approved and completed and Central share released are given at Statement-I. (*See* below)

(b) Out of the 59 eligible towns in Assam, 21 schemes covering 21 towns have so far been approved leaving balance of 38 towns to be covered. Details of 21 towns covered under the scheme are given at Statements-II. (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Guidelines of the Programme lay down that the selection of towns/schemes shall be done only through the State level selection committee constituted for this purpose with priorities for towns with special problems like low per capita supply, distant or deep water source, drought prone areas, excess salinity, fluoride & iron content in the water sources and high incidence of water borne diseases. However, the scheme of AUWSP has been subsmed in the new scheme of Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) for infrastructure development projects including water supply projects. The State Governments may formulate proposals and prioritise district headquarter towns for coverage under the new scheme for consideration by State Level Sanctioning Committee envisaged under the scheme.